Amended Independent Claims	Corresponding New Independent Claims
A system for accepting and storing items for subsequent pickup by a commercial carrier, comprising:	20. A system for accepting and storing items for subsequent pickup by a commercial carrier, comprising:
an outer housing;	an outer housing;
means for weighing an item which a customer may intend to ship;	means for weighing an item which a customer may intend to ship;
means for inputting information relating to the destination of the item from customer;	a keyboard or touch screen for inputting information relating to the destination of the item from customer;
control means for calculating charges comprising a shipment fee for the item, said control means being in communication with said weighing means and said information inputting means;	control means for calculating charges comprising a shipment fee for the item, said control means being in communication with said weighing means and said keyboard or touch screen;
means in communication with said control means for accepting identification information relating to eventual payment from the customer, said means in communication with said control means comprising means for receiving and reading a credit card and means for communicating the charges to a central location for billing the charges to said customer;	means in communication with said control means for accepting identification information relating to eventual payment from the customer, said means in communication with said control means comprising means for receiving and reading a credit card, and telephone lines connected to the means for receiving and reading a credit card for communicating the charges to a central location for billing the charges to said customer;
a storage area defined by said outer housing comprising secure deposit means for permitting a customer to securely deposit the item into the storage area, said secure deposit means including a first zone which serves as a holding space and a secure zone into which the item is moved for secure storage.	a storage area defined by said outer housing comprising secure deposit means for permitting a customer to securely deposit the item into the storage area, said secure deposit means including a first zone which serves as a holding space and a secure zone into which the item is moved for secure storage.
5. An integrated, automated, unattended unit for collecting and securely holding items for collection and shipment by commercial delivery services, said automated unit comprising:	21. An integrated, automated, unattended unit for collecting and securely holding items for collection and shipment by commercial delivery services, said automated unit comprising:
means for weighing the item to be shipped;	means for weighing the item to be shipped;
means for inputting information relating to the destination to which the item is to be shipped;	a keyboard or touch screen for inputting information relating to the destination to which the item is to be shipped;
control means for analyzing the inputted information and calculating a fee for shipment of the item; said control means further including means for receiving credit card information and	control means for analyzing the inputted information and calculating a fee for shipment of the item;
means for communicating and assessing the shipment fee to the account of the person owning	means for receiving credit card information;
the credit card, said means for communicating the shipment fee comprising telephone lines;	means for communicating and assessing the shipment fee to the account of the person owning the credit card comprising telephone lines;
means for securely storing said item until the item is collected by said commercial delivery service; and	means for securely storing said item until the item is collected by said commercial delivery service; and

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Amended Independent Claims	Corresponding New Independent Claims
14. A system for accepting and storing items for subsequent pickup by a commercial carrier, comprising:	24. A system for accepting and storing items for subsequent pickup by a commercial carrier, comprising:
means for weighing an item which a customer may intend to ship, said weighing means being supported by said system;	means for weighing an item which a customer may intend to ship;
means for inputting information relating to the destination of the item from customer;	a keyboard or touch screen for inputting information relating to the destination of the item from the customer;
control means for calculating charges comprising a shipment fee for the item, said control means being in communication with said weighing means and said information inputting means;	control means for calculating charges comprising a shipment fee for the item, said control means being in communication with said weighing means and said keyboard or touch screen;
means in communication with said control means for accepting identification information relating to eventual payment from the customer, and for communicating the charges to a central location for billing the charges to said customer;	means in communication with said control means for accepting identification information relating to eventual payment from the customer, and for communicating the charges to a central location for billing the charges to said customer; and
a storage area comprising secure deposit means for permitting a customer to securely deposit the item into the storage area, said secure deposit means including a first zone which serves as holding space and a secure zone into which the item is moved for secure storage.	a storage area comprising secure deposit means for permitting a customer to securely deposit the item into the storage area, said secure deposit means including a first zone which serves as holding space and a secure zone into which the item is moved for secure storage.
16. An integrated, automated, unattended unit for collecting and securely holding item for collection and shipment by commercial delivery services; said automated unit comprising,	25. An integrated, automated, unattended unit for collecting and securely holding item for collection and shipment by commercial delivery services; said automated unit comprising,
means for weighing the item to be shipped;	means for weighing the item to be shipped;
means for inputting information relating to the destination to which the item is to be shipped;	a keyboard or touch screen for inputting information relating to the destination to which the item is to be shipped;
control means for analyzing the inputted information and calculating the fee for shipment of the item, said control means further including	means for analyzing the inputted information and calculating a fee for shipment of the item;
means for communicating and assessing the shipment fee to an account of a person, said means for communicating and assessing comprising means for printing a hard copy of said shipment fee for said person;	means for communicating and assessing the shipment fee to an account of a person comprising means for printing a hard copy of said shipment fee for said person;

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Amended Independent Claims	Corresponding New Independent Claims
means for securely storing said item until the item is collected by said commercial delivery service; and	means for securely storing said item until the item is collected by said commercial delivery service; and
means for storing the inputted information associated with said item disposed in said secured storage means.	a memory for storing the inputted information associated with said item disposed in said secured storage means.
19. An integrated, automated, unattended unit for collecting and securely holding items for collection and shipment by commercial delivery services; said automated unit comprising;	26. An integrated, automated, unattended unit for collecting and securely holding item for collection and shipment by commercial delivery services; said automated unit comprising,
means for inputting information relating to the destination to which the item is to be shipped;	a keyboard or touch screen for inputting information relating to the destination to which the item is to be shipped;
control means for analyzing the inputted information and calculating the fee for shipment of the item; said control means further including means for communicating and assessing the shipment fee to an account of a person, said means for communicating the shipment fee comprising telephone lines;	control means for analyzing the inputted information and calculating a fee for shipment of the item; means for communicating and assessing the shipment fee to an account of a person comprising means for printing a hard copy of said shipment fee for said person;
means for securely storing said item until the item is collected by said commercial delivery service; and	means for securely storing said item until the item is collected by said commercial delivery service;
means for storing the inputted information associated with said item disposed in said secured storage means, said information storage means including means for transmitting information	a memory for storing the inputted information associated with said item disposed in said secured storage means; and
that <u>may be</u> used to prepare a manifest to a remote location.	means for transmitting the information to a remote location.